

Wisdom Lane PTA Meeting 10/16/23

Call to Order: Kathleen calls the meeting to order at 7:03 pm and welcomes everyone to our zoom meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Janette Ruddy asks if everyone has had a chance to review the minutes from our last meeting, Cheryl and Tara approve the minutes. The minutes will be filed as written.

Principal's Report: Mr. Avena welcomes everyone to the meeting as well as the staff members that are attending the meeting. Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on 11/15/23 and all information will be sent out within the next week or so. We are 6 weeks into the school year and parents should be checking the parent portal as grades and comments are being posted. This coming Monday is GOAT day and each grade will be getting their own assembly, and they will be getting a chance to purchase GOAT T-Shirts. They will be coming in 3 different colors. The prices of the shirts will be \$25. They will be available through pre-order. All information will be available after Monday's assemblies. Information regarding the 7th and 8th grade trips will be forthcoming. Our 7th graders will be going to Boston May 15th and 16th and our 8th graders are going to Philadelphia May 28th and 29th.

Mrs. Spainer and Mrs. Katcher: Our 7th and 8th grade chorus and 8th grade Band will be going to Music in the Park at Great Adventure on May 11th. The cost of the trip is roughly \$165 per student and will need roughly 100 students to participate. We will be holding fundraisers to help with the costs of the trip. Chipotle will be one of our fundraisers and that will be held on 10/25 from 5-9pm. We also have candy and other fundraisers.

1st VP: Lauren Sica

As a reminder to any committee, chairperson please send all reports to Kathleen, Lauren and Janette before each meeting.

Spirit wear we had about 52 orders, they are running about 1-2 weeks behind in getting out.

Joe's Ice cream truck generated about \$70, unfortunately with the rain we have had we have not had the sales we had hoped for.

2nd VP: Tara Reyes:

We have about 225 members, last year we had 234 members. Hoping to surpass what we had last year. Thank you to all that have joined to date

3rd VP: Yelez Cipriano

We are rolling our Kastle Fundraiser, which is an assortment of packaged chocolates and confections and also wrapping paper and yankee candles. It was very successful last year.

We will also be having a Chipotle Fundraiser that we will be holding back until December 5 giving time for the music dept to have a successful fundraiser themselves.

We are also looking into doing a fundraiser with Krispy Kreme donuts. We will have more information forthcoming as it is available.

Treasurer's Report: Anthony LoPinto

Opening Checkbook Balance \$23,380.40

Expenses:

Total Expenses \$0.00

Income:

Membership \$2,090.00

Bank Interest \$4.01

Boces Reimbursement \$556.50

Total Income \$2,650.51

Closing Checkbook Balance \$26,030.91

Checkbook balance as of Sept 30, 2023 \$26,030.91

Bank balance as of Sept 30, 2023 \$26,180.91

\$150.00

Checks Outstanding: Total: \$150.00

226 \$50.00

230 \$50.00

231 \$50.00

Corresponding Secretary: No Report

4th VP: Ms. Going

th Grade Science Classes

On September 28th and October 11th 7th graders went to Fire Island Sunken Forest where they learned how glaciers formed Long Island, the uniqueness of the forest ecosystem

Mrs. Carella and Mrs. Hahvorsen

Halloween Dance is Friday, October 27th. Cost is \$10.00 for admission and 2 snack tickets. Prizes are awarded for best costumes in each grade. No Masks are allowed.

Parent teacher conferences

Wednesday, November 15 from 6:30pm - 9:00

Parents can book appointments via TeacherReacher starting on November 1 at 7pm.

Each conference is 4 minutes in length.

More information will be posted on Parent Square and the Wisdom webpage.

Picture ReTakes Friday 10/27 8th graders will be able to pick between original or retake for yearbook picture.

Ms. Medina

re are 7 of Wisdom's & Community Activities for October'23:

1. **Wednesday, October 18, 2023 is UNITY DAY ... The month of October is Bully Prevention Month and Wisdom joins the National Campaign Against Bullying by wearing Orange to support Kindness, Acceptance and Inclusiveness.** Support Staff has various in-school and lunch time activities planned. UNITY DAY Campaign activities spearheaded by Social Worker, Rina Bronstein.
2. **October 21st (Saturday 4pm-8:30pm) Annual Light The Night @ Eisenhower Park '23 : to support LLS Leukemia & Lymphoma Society 0& to Help Find a Cure For Cancers- Students & their families together can join Wisdom SADD & Builders Club along with DAHS Key Club & SADD to volunteer (optional), fundraise and Walk in the Light The Night Activity; which is a fun, awareness event with music, food and a fireworks finale. Students /Parents can contact: Social worker Advisor, J. Medina for more info. Flyer & Registration Information**
<https://pages.lls.org/ltn/li/Eisenhow23/wisdomlanemiddleschoolbuildersclub>
3. **The Nationally celebrated Red Ribbon Week (RRW) Theme "Be Kind To Your Brain" (October 23-31) highlights substance use prevention and character Education.** SADD & Builders Club students will decorate the grounds with Red Ribbons to bring awareness to the RRW issues. SADD will create and read Awareness Education to promote positive messages to promote healthy choices over substance use/vaping etc. In-class videos and lunch activities and Healthy & Drug Free Me Pledge Days. J. Medina
4. **October 24th LYOUTH Coalition (Levittown- Young Organizers United to Help) will be presenting to Wisdom students afterschool on Tuesday, October 24th in Room 111 at the co-sponsored Builders & SADD meeting . Open to any student to learn more about positive coping strategies, healthy choices and about the supportive LYOUTH group; which is open to Levittown youth and comprised of 7th* & 8th graders along with 9th through 12th graders from Wisdom, Salk, Division, MacArthur & Island Trees MS & HS students who meet at YESCCC the second Wednesday from 5pm-6pm monthly.**
5. **Monday, October 23 – Screenagers Movie Seaford Cinemas Free with student 5:45pm-8:30pm – Free from the LCAC(Levittown Community Action Coalition & MTAC & YESCCC (Flyer Attached to register for free)**
6. **Levittown's Annual "Drug Take Back Day" on Saturday, October 28th at Wisdom Lane MS from 9:30am-12:00pm- Medications & Sharps Accepted by LCAC- Levittown Community Action Coalition &**

7. **Wisdom PTA sponsors our school's LEADD / Red Ribbon Week CAMFEWL Multi-Media ASSEMBLIES for 6th , 7,th & 8thgrades called DARE TO MOVE** addressing Issues, featuring current music and movies along with youth perspectives and vignettes that promote healthy decision-making and lifestyles. It also focuses on Character Education, Respect and Substance Use Prevention, Anti-bullying and supporting Up=stander behaviors and coping strategies. Booked through Boces- Arts-I-Education by J. Medina Included with assembly are Teacher/ Classroom resources & ability for teacher streaming capability and program follow-up.

Council: No Report

Curriculum:

Dr. Z shared a BOE presentation outlining the new recommended graduation requirements. These requirements will be incorporated into a new graduation policy for BOE approval. These requirements including syncing with NYSED requirements, a .5 elective credit in financial literacy, and fully scheduling students in grades 9-11 while scheduling seniors for 5 plus PE. In addition a new research continuum will be written for grades 9-12 to replace the current standalone research paper in Grade 12.

Dr. Z gave an update on the School Climate Committee for the district and the buildings. This year's district committee will kick off on 10/17 with a full-day meeting facilitated by Dr. John Krownapple's team - Krownapple is the author of the book - Belonging Through A Culture of Dignity

Dr. Z shared that the Course Catalog was being completely redesigned and would be available to families in early December - along with the new courses being offered at our high schools. There were also going to be changes to the course selection process. More in-school promotion of electives and more time in-school for students to select their courses. Student selection was previously done at home only - and student participation in this process was minimal. School counselors will still be meeting with students to review their selections individually. This part of the process will not change.

The first ever vocational fair will be happening on 11/29 at both high schools. This is an opportunity for students interested in more vocational opportunities, or police, fire department, military, could attend to explore potential pathways. We are excited for this new Event!

Dr. Z briefly shared that the rollout of the new ELA curriculum has been going well at the elementary level. K-2 rolled out Into Reading and Foundations/Geodes. While 3-5 rolled out Into Reading. Teachers continue to get training in these programs.

Our Adult Continuing Education Program started in October. So far it has been a success. Enrollment was excellent. We look forward to offering more pickleball in the spring. 😊

The next meeting is December 7th.

Reflections: Start on 10/23/23 all submissions must be in by 11/21/23. Reflections is a National PTA Arts and Recognition program for grades PreK-12. Students submit their work in all or one of these categories. Dance, Choreography, film, Literature, music, composition, photography and visual arts. Submitted works could result in awards

Septa: Has ongoing membership you do not have to have a child in Special Ed to join. We still have an ongoing fundraiser which is Boo Bags. We have 7 left. Our next event is not a meeting but a family event. That is 11/20/23. We ask that parent be a member of Septa

Old Business: NO

New Business: Lauren states that we need delegates for our Council meeting 1/9/24 and 2/6/24. Kathleen reiterates that it can not be anyone who sits on a board for another school. Cheryl Denecke volunteers to sit at the meetings.

Adjourned: Kathleen adjourns meeting 7:28 pm

Notes written by: Janette Ruddy